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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
)  
**YAMAZAKI et al.** )  
)  
**Application Number: 10/812,893** )  
)  
**Filed: March 31, 2004** )  
)  
**For: DISK ARRAY APPARATUS AND DISK ARRAY** )  
**APPARATUS CONTROLLING METHOD** )  
)  
**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. ASAM.0118** )

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**

**LETTER**

Sir:

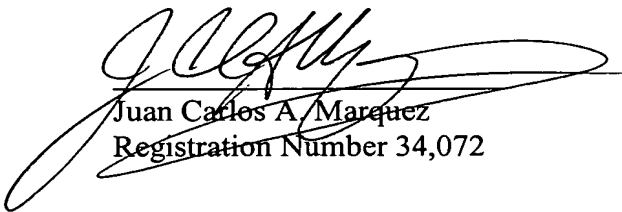
The below-identified communications are submitted in the above-captioned application or proceeding:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (X)	<b>Priority Documents (2 )</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (X)	<b>Request for Priority</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ( ) Assignment Document
<input type="checkbox"/> ( )	<b>Response to Missing Parts</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ( ) Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.47(a)
	<b>w/ signed Declaration</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ( ) Check for \$00.00

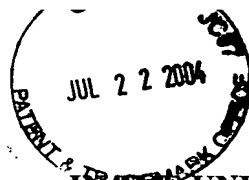
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication, including fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 or credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account Number 08-1480**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 22, 2004



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**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY  
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119  
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

Sir:

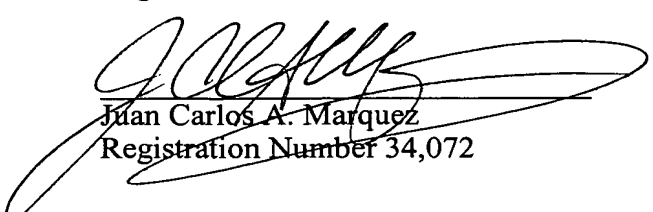
In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority dates of January 16, 2004 and March 23, 2004 the filing date of the corresponding Japanese patent applications 2004-009004 and 2004-085575.

A certified copy of Japanese patent applications 2004-009004 and 2004-085575 are being submitted herewith. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy is respectfully requested in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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